

# The Fulton County News.

McCONNELLSBURG, PA., DECEMBER 14, 1899.

NUMBER 13.

## Zimmerman, The Veteran Horse Thief, Gets His Sentence.

Two weeks ago the News published a sketch of the career of the aged horse thief, Peter Zimmerman, at the time of his arrest. A trial from Indiana, Pa., of December 1st, 1899, was held in the court of the county. An unusual scene was enacted in White's Court in Indiana county. Old Peter Zimmerman, head as white as snow, and bowed with the weight of 75 years, was arraigned for stealing a horse. He pleaded guilty and then told remarkable career in crime. Zimmerman had spent forty years of his life in various parts of the country, and grew reminiscent of the penitentiaries in which he had been confined.

When asked by the Court what he had done, he replied smilingly: "I was a horse thief, that's all, and I kept with my long career of crime."

The old man, turning to his aged counsel, said: "I never could get the impulse of stealing a good horse, and I liberated will certainly let the offense again."

The judge then sentenced the old man to 17 years in the penitentiary and fine. The old story is told of Zimmerman staying around among the horses in the southern end of this county. He had previously borrowed from some citizen of the county failed to return it and now to his purpose was passing as a deaf dumb man, but was recognized as Zimmerman by some people. He succeeded for a time, however, in making believe it was a case of mistaken identity, until one day a lady who had kept an eye on him remarked to him: "Why that clock has stopped Zimmerman, forgetting himself quickly. 'No, it hasn't, going all right.'" This imprudence caused him to leave the neighborhood instantly, and is another illustration of the saying that "silence is golden."

## SWELL THAT ENDS WELL.

Fortune, as the etymology of the word indicates, is just the opposite of misfortune; and no one can spend time in this cold world without being practical experience some of its meaning. Sometimes the instances under which it falls upon individuals or families makes its position seem almost the quintessence of cruelty.

Fortune in the form of disappointment is, perhaps, least easily borne, and elicits sympathy wherever it is, while the sympathy of loved ones does not make good the loss of our disappointment, it is a balm for our wounded feelings. The serious reflections were induced by a touching expression of gratitude from the Tyrone Times of last week worthy editor to one of his correspondents.

It means that Brother Thompson had no possession of a turkey for giving—in what way—whether they arrived at Harry's coop or by day—we are not in doubt; but at the prospect of roast turkey, and onion sauce, there is in the editorial household, just for all human expectations, the time arrived, and all hands set out to witness the behoarding of the fowl—well, we can't be the scene for we have broken out of our penitentiary in our turkey was gone.

## KING POST.

A meeting of the members of King Post No. 1, held in their Hall at 10 o'clock on the 2nd inst., the following officers for the year 1900 were elected: Commander, Michael Helman; Vice, Elliott Ray; J. Vice, Thomas Quastmaster; D. T. Fields; Secretary, Michael Lehman; O. D., J. Kelly; O. G., A. Runyan; Ad. D., Malloy; Representative to Grand Encampment, Captain W. A. Malloy; D. Malloy. The next meeting will be held Saturday, December 16, 1900. The annual inspection will take place at the same time.

## THE CAUSE OF THAT LIMP.

An observer will notice that a number of pedestrians on our McConnellsburg streets, have a decided limp. Some of the halt are not of that class so given to vanity as to afflict themselves with shoes a number or so too small, and others wear a size so remarkably large as to remove all suspicion on the subject. Then, too, there are a number of our town ladies wearing No. 3s that would feel more comfortable if they were wearing the box that the shoes were packed in instead of the contracted, but pretty affairs, their pedal extremities are encased in. The wearer of a pair of shoes, be they Sorosis, Regals, or Brogans, that causes pain, is not one to be envied, and while their heads may be among the stars and full of delicious fancies, their feet take hold on what appears to be a hotter clime. We are led to these remarks by trying to explain the prevalent limp. Quite a number of our people are suffering the twinges of painful feet, and it is supposed the trouble comes from the leather, imparted by some ingredient used in the tanning process. However roomy, and apparently comfortable the shoes outwardly appear, this drawing, cramping, burning sensation prevails until the articles are removed to the garret, which seems to be the only panacea. But all scourges and calamities have their redeeming features, and so has this. The vain and proud can attribute their suffering and limping to the leather, and the smaller the shoe the larger the proportionate amount of pain they will experience. Another drawback which we would not have thought of were we not reminded by the poet, is 'Tis sad to court a girl, And then not get her; But sadder yet to court a girl Whose shoes don't fit her.

## KILLED A DEER.

From Oriskany Dispatch. Mrs. Ezra T. Shoupe, of near Saltville, was recently the heroine of a thrilling encounter with a big buck, which she first wounded with a big rifle ball and then dispatched with a knife, after being attacked by the infuriated animal. Mrs. Shoupe, who lives in a fine game country, was alone at home when she saw a large buck feeding in a nearby grain field. She immediately secured her husband's rifle, a 22 calibre, and after a careful aim shot the deer in the right fore shoulder. The buck at once attacked the woman, who, seeing her predicament, grasped a large carving knife and fought valiantly for her life. The animal was somewhat handicapped by a broken fore leg, and at intervals would stumble and fall. On one of these occasions, Mrs. Shoupe, who had already received several very painful cuts from the buck's uninjured fore foot, planted the knife squarely in the animal's throat and cut the jugular vein. The deer expired almost instantly, and now Mrs. Shoupe finds herself famous. The buck, which carried five-pronged antlers, weighed 143 pounds. Mrs. Shoupe is an expert in the use of firearms and has much game to her credit. In her encounter with the buck Mrs. Shoupe was painfully, but not seriously injured.

## PENNSYLVANIA'S OLDEST TEACHER.

Miss Rachel Denn Griscom, of Reading, the oldest public school teacher in Pennsylvania, celebrated her 91st birthday several weeks ago. Miss Griscom began to teach at Reading in 1835. She was born in Salem, New Jersey, November 5, 1808. Her parents were Samuel and Ann Powell Griscom. In 1809 the family moved to Philadelphia and lived there eighteen years. Her first experience as a teacher was obtained at Hancock Bridge, New Jersey, in a log house, when she was 17 years old.

## CUT YOUR REVENUE STAMPS.

Unpatriotic individuals have been cheating the government by re-using revenue stamps. The fraud of washing the stamps is a difficult one to detect, because the stamped documents do not pass under the eye of government officers. The government has issued additional directions for the cancellation of stamps. They must be mutilated. "Three parallel incisions lengthwise through the stamp, beginning not more than one-fourth of an inch from one end thereof and extending to within one-fourth of an inch of the other end." This applies to documentary stamps of 10 cents up.

## A RETROSPECT.

### The County Institute Established—Changes in the School Term.

#### MINIMUM SCHOOL TERM.

When one looks in upon the large body of intelligent young people assembled in the court house this week, and compares the scene with the picture of what passed for a county institute one-third of a century ago, it starts in the mind of the old teacher a train of reflections. The writer was present at the first one and has not missed many since.

A glance over the thirty years' existence of the county institute may be of some interest to the young teacher, at least.

While there had been a growing sentiment that more effective work could be done by teachers if they should have an organization, and meet at stated intervals for conference and instruction in the art of teaching, it wasn't until April 9, 1867, that John W. Genry, Governor of this state signed the bill establishing by law a county teachers' institute.

That bill provides that the county superintendent is hereby authorized and required, once in each year, to call upon and invite the teachers of the common schools, and other institutions of learning in his county, to assemble together and organize themselves into a teachers' institute to be devoted to the improvement of teachers in the science and art of education, to continue in session at least five days (including a half day for going to, and a half day for returning from the place of meeting of the said institute.

For the financial support of the institute, the superintendent is authorized to draw from the county treasury a sum equal to one dollar for each three days attendance by members, provided the sum shall not exceed two hundred dollars but may in all cases be sixty dollars. Of course, the superintendent cannot draw any money from the county treasury without first depositing with the treasurer vouchers showing that the money has been used in the payment of the legitimate expenses of the institute.

The evening lecture course is an independent feature, and is largely a private enterprise. The superintendent hires the lecturers, and is personally liable for their pay. To meet this expense he charges an admission fee. If not enough is realized by this method he must go down into his own pocket for the shortage; if there is a surplus, he reports the same to the State Department, but, of course, is not asked to pay it over. At the close of the institute the superintendent is required to submit every item of receipt and expenditure, whether of day work or lecture course, to a board of auditors. It is entirely optional with the superintendent whether or not he have a night lecture course, just as it is optional with the teachers or any one else whether they attend.

For several years after the establishing of the county institute by law there was considerable prejudice against them; so strong was this in many districts, that it was hardly considered safe for a teacher to attend, if he cared anything for his chances with the board next year.

During the first year of the common school system, three months of twenty-four days each constituted a legal term. In 1854 the twenty-four day month was reduced to twenty-two, and four months made the minimum—teachers keeping school open every other Saturday. In 1868 the school term was lengthened from four to five months but the number of days remained unchanged. No change was now made until 1887 when the minimum term was made six months, and the length of the month twenty days actual teaching.

Before this time, teachers were allowed to close their schools on all legal holidays, and count these days and the days in attendance at the county institute, as so much time taught. Hence, while five months of twenty-two days each constituted the term, after the school had been closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year, Washington's Birthday, and Good Friday and the five days at institute, there were but one hundred days of actual teaching, and the teacher was paid for one hundred and ten days.

To simplify matters, our legislators in 1887 said we shall shorten each month two days, and pay the teachers for their attendance at institute. Thus matters stood until the last session of the legislature, when the minimum term was lengthened to seven months.

The county institute of thirty years ago was a very different affair from that of the present. It then took on the form of a school. Classes were formed, or rather the teachers were all placed in one class, and regular instruction in the common school branches was given. The principal feature in the institute of 1868 was a spelling contest. Several prizes had

been procured by the superintendent from a contribution from the teachers, and were awarded to those making the best record. Mrs. Sallie M. Cook carried off the first, a Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, William F. Hughes the second prize a Worcester's Unabridged, and so on down—the writer had to content himself with a copy of "Wickersham's Methods of Instruction."

If an evening entertainment was risked it was thought to be a success if people could be induced to attend without money, &c. For several years the late J. W. Shoemaker, a fine elocutionist of Philadelphia was employed as a day instructor, and he could generally be prevailed upon to give an evening's entertainment, and Darius Green's Flying Machine; and Widow Bedot were among the readings (recitations had not been thought of yet.) that captured the house, and brought forth uproarious storms of applause.

That some idea may be had of the public estimation of the institute at first, we publish, through the courtesy of Editor Francis M. Taylor the notice of the first county institute after the passage of the act as it appeared in the Fulton Republican of January 2, 1868.

"We believe there was a meeting of the teachers of Fulton county, commonly called the 'institute.' It was gotten up 'on the sly,' as no one, or, at least, only a favored few, knew anything about it. The several teachers came to town unannounced and unheralded and the question was heard all around, 'What means this flocking to town of all these well dressed, fine looking ladies and gentlemen?' Everybody presumed that they came to attend the Christmas Festival, but that was hardly a correct conclusion, some surmised, as it was too early in the week for that. Gradually it leaked out that there was an 'institute' on hand and the problem was solved. But why this reticence about a matter of public interest and importance? If the public in general, and the parents in particular, are expected to take an interest in these things, and encourage by their presence, why not publish to the world that there will be a meeting of the teacher's institute &c. 'On Thursday evening, we are informed, there was a lecture before the institute by an eminent educator from Franklin county. But in this the same reticence was observed, and the question passed from one to another, 'What is that bell ringing for?' without receiving a satisfactory reply until after the exercises were over."

#### A Delicate Operation.

An exceedingly interesting and delicate operation was performed Monday Dec. 4, upon a 3 year old child of Charles Grove of Hancock, by Drs. Myers, of Martinsburg, and West of this place, who were assisted by Dr. J. S. Diehl.

On Thursday the child while playing with its sister put a 22 calibre empty gun cartridge in its mouth. A strong inspiratory effort caused it to be sucked into the windpipe where it caused paroxysms of coughing and placed the child in imminent danger of death from suffocation. All efforts to dislodge the foreign body were vain, and on Monday the surgeons opened the trachea and found the cartridge imbedded in mucous secretion in the right bronchus where it was cutting off respiration from the entire right lung. It was removed through the opening made in the trachea, the wound in the throat sewed up. The little patient rallied nicely from the severe ordeal but about midnight the child died. Interment from Episcopal church at 10:30 A. M.—From Hancock Star.

The National Council of the Grand Army of the Republic decided last Tuesday that the next reunion will be held during the last week of August, 1900, in Chicago.

#### LOCAL CORRESPONDENCE.

##### BIG COVE.

Miss Hattie Kendall entertained quite a number of her girl friends Monday evening of last week in honor of her fourteenth birthday.

A goodly number of our young friends enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Bard McDowell of Lehmastur, Thursday evening of last week.

Miss Stella Cook, of Little Cove, is one of Big Cove's visitors this week.

We are pleased to learn that Miss Jessie Kendall who has been very ill lately, is convalescing.

Mrs. J. M. Unger has returned from her month's visit with friends in Wells Valley and other places in the northern section of the county.

#### SALUVIA.

H. E. Austin, is recovering from injuries received in the run-off in McConnellsburg, Wednesday.

Mrs. W. C. Mann and daughter Miss Ella, were in McConnellsburg, Wednesday. After their return home in the evening, the spirited young horse they were driving, became frightened while being unlitened from the buggy and ran away, making a wreck of the vehicle. Fortunately no one was injured.

With their steam fodder cutter, Johnston Bros., of Laidig, cut up a large lot of fodder for W. R. Speer and W. C. Mann, last week. Miss Jessie Cunningham, of Wells Valley, spent a few days, the guest of Miss Anna Speer.

Rev. Sarvis, of Hustontown, accompanied Dr. Yocum to Green Hill, Sunday afternoon, and assisted at the services.

Rev. Hughes, began protracted meetings at Asbury, Monday night.

W. N. Stewart, a progressive teacher of Ayr township, spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Stewart.

Thomas B. McGraw, Brush Creek's enterprising nurseryman, was in this place last week, soliciting orders for Spring delivery.

John Sipes and Mr. Stevens, of Hustontown, spent a few days with Mr. Sipes's cousin, Emanuel Sipes. The rabbits kept out of the way during their sojourn here.

Mrs. Speer, met with a very serious accident Friday night. She had gone upstairs, and prepared to retire for the night. After extinguishing the light, she got too close the stair landing, and fell to the bottom, landing in the kitchen, seriously injuring her paralyzed limb, and cutting an ugly gash in the side of her head. A physician was summoned, who rendered necessary medical aid. Her many friends hope for her speedy recovery.

John P. Sipes, Esq., of McConnellsburg, attended services at Green Hill, Sunday afternoon.

Frank Cunningham, of Enid, was a guest of Mrs. Speer's family Saturday night.

George Duvall, one of Brush Creek's successful teachers, attended Endeavor at Green Hill, Sunday night.

#### TIMBER RIDGE.

Mrs. Cattlett, who has been spending some time at Brunswick, Md., with her daughter, Mrs. Fisher, returned home last week. She is still critically ill, and is under treatment of a Brunswick doctor.

Mr. and Mrs. Anna Sharpe spent last Sunday down at Pappy Gregory's.

Messrs Strait and Waltz moved their well machinery down to T. H. Truax's. They will drill a well for Thomas this week.

Jacob Myers and Miss Lillie Fisher were seen passing up the Ridge Sunday en route to McConnellsburg to attend Institute.

W. C. Peck expects to go to housekeeping this week.

Hewitt Brothers are busily engaged sawing lumber on the Carbaugh farm for Mr. Bridges, of Hancock.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Evans called to see Mrs. A. J. Pittman the first of this week.

Institute at Independence on the 8th was well attended.

Lee Cattlett and wife, Rhoda and Mrs. Martha Strait, were in McConnellsburg last Monday.

E. M. Funk burnt a limekiln last week.

Mrs. P. P. Shives spent last Sunday with her mother.

Peter Wright, our champion hunter has killed 52 rabbits, 37 squirrels, and wild 3 turkeys. If everybody was like Mr. Wright game would be very scarce.

Rev. Barney will preach at Antioch next Saturday at 3 P. M.

#### THOMPSON.

John C. Brewer killed four nice pigs that weighed 367, 369, and 486. Emanuel Keefer and Jacob Gordon, the champion butchers of Thompson, did the butchering.

John Tayman has purchased the two farms from his father on private terms.

Mrs. Ella Fife bought the Rachel Brant farm for \$2200.

P. P. Shives and wife spent Saturday evening with John H. Brewer.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Brewer were the guests of L. M. Shives Sunday.

Eli Funk and Frank Martin were the guests of Margaret Truax.

David Humbert is the champion trapper hereabouts.

A young man in Thompson expecting to be married in the near future, while working at this place, did not know that a looking glass hung in the hall and always complimented the house on having such a nice picture, when all the time it was Jim looking in the glass. Guess his best girl has been telling him how good looking he was. Wait till the honeymoon is over and then look.

There will be an entertainment at Antioch church on Saturday evening before Christmas.

#### CLEAR RIDGE.

Everything is quiet while the children are enjoying vacation. There was an interesting local institute held at this place on Wednesday evening, December 6, but it was not well attended by teachers. The next one will be held at Ft. Littleton.

Rev. G. P. Sarvis has closed a successful meeting at Center, and he intends to begin one at this place next Sunday evening. There will be an interesting Christmas entertainment held at this place on Sunday evening, December 24.

Mrs. Ruth Swope, accompanied by her son, spent Sunday with the family of S. L. Bedford. Mrs. Bedford returned home with them. She will spend a few days in Bedford this week. Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Brown spent the past week with friends at Waterloo.

John Woodcock, who has been on the sick list is slowly improving; also Mrs. James Kuhn, Jr., is improving.

Clear Ridge school reports as follows: Number enrolled, 37; average attendance, 32; those who attended 60 days are Nellie and Dora Baker, Irene Kerlin, Lucy Stinson, Jessie, Lillian, and Smith Henry, Loyd and David Fleming, and Sadie Wilson.

#### NEW GRENADA.

Now, for a good snow!

Rev. Bickle has moved his effects from Beaverton to New Grenada, where he will reside in the future.

J. G. Cunningham, "our village blacksmith" butchered the mammoth porkers of our town so far. His two pigs made him nearly 700 pounds of meat.

Arthur Cunningham took in the sights of Fort Littleton recently. He reports a very pleasant time. All along the way.

Our town was well represented at the lecture (A handfull of hits) delivered at Pine Grove last Friday night by Rev. Gilbert of Huntingdon.

J. H. Edwards expects to leave for Pittsburg in the near future. Thus, one by one, our young bloods are leaving for richer fields.

Death again has cast a gloom over the entire community. Last Sunday night the Angel of Death visited the home of Lewis Bergstresser and claimed as its victim "Uncle Lewis," as he was familiarly known. He was esteemed by all who knew him—always cheerful—a good word for everyone. He was a consistent member of Zion M. E. church for upwards of 60 years. He served

as class leader for 50 years—until it was impossible for him to attend that means of grace. He had but a few days ago turned into his eightieth year. His remains were interred in the Bethel cemetery, Tuesday. The funeral services were conducted by his pastor, Rev. W. J. Schaeffer, of Three Springs.

#### INOPERABLE.

Six Doctors With Mrs. Bishop Tuesday Afternoon—Patient Doing Well Again.

Her many friends will be sorry to learn that Mrs. Bishop of this place, who for three years, has been suffering from a complication of abdominal troubles, is not so well again. The tapping process had to be resorted to more frequently, and she, at last, consented to a surgical operation.

On Tuesday, Doctors Ramsey and Palmer of Chambersburg, assisted by her attending physician, Dr. Garthwaite, diagnosed the case an Ovarian Cyst, which unfortunately proved to be inoperable. To use the language of an Esculapius, "the peritoneal adhesions were so intensely interwoven with the vital organs" that it would have been very unsafe to proceed. The incision made through the walls of the abdomen for the purpose of making the examination was closed, and at this writing, (Wednesday) Mrs. Bishop is doing well. Doctors Dalbey, Smith, and Mosser, of this place were present.

#### FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

This is an age of advancement. While the State has a department of Public Instruction, and the county teachers' institute is incidental to that department, so the State, likewise, gives the Agricultural interests a department; and the farmers who cultivate the soil, are provided with the same facilities for the acquisition of knowledge in their particular work as is given those who cultivate the human mind. The farmer is an agriculturist; the school teacher a menticulturist. To be successful, each must understand the nature of the material upon which he operates.

The head of the Department of Public Instruction is Nathan C. Sheaffer at a salary of \$4000 a year. The head of the Department of Agriculture is John Hamilton who was borne on a farm down in Juniata county nearly 57 years ago. He receives a salary of \$3,500 a year. Then the other members of the Department are a Deputy Secretary at \$3,000; an Economic Zoologist at \$2,500; a Commissioner of Forestry at \$2,500; a Dairy and Food Commissioner at \$2,500; a State Veterinarian, at \$2,500; a chief clerk at \$1,600; three minor clerks at \$1,500 each; a stenographer at \$800, and a messenger at \$600.

The Deputy Secretary is charged with the management of institutes for which a special appropriation is made, and they are held throughout the State each year.

With such provisions here is no reason why even a farmer should not turn out as good as the most of the institutes; they are brought to his door each year.

Just as there was indifference toward, and prejudice against, county teachers' institutes at first, so the farmers' institute has had much the same experience. The institutes held in this county last week showed that the people are beginning to realize that they must pay their share toward the maintenance of this department, and that they may just as well reap some of its benefits; and the attendance at the different points, the enthusiasm manifested, and the general intelligence shown proves that our farmers are keeping pace with our teachers, and that the farmers' institutes will receive the same consideration as does the teachers' institute.

When a boy goes to hunt anything, he always begins by making everybody in the room get up to see if they are sitting on the lost article.